## **CLAIMS**

## What is claimed is:

- 1. A method of producing nitride based heterostructure devices comprising the
- 2 steps of:
- 3 providing a substrate; and
- 4 applying a quaternary layer over the substrate wherein the quaternary layer
- 5 includes In.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises one of the group
- 2 comprising sapphire, SiC, ZnO, a spinel substrate, Si, anodized alumina, and AlN.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the quaternary layer further includes Al, Ga
- and N.
- 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising applying a second layer positioned
- between the substrate and the quaternary layer.
- 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the second layer includes GaN.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the quaternary layer includes the compound
- 2 AlInGaN.

- 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the quaternary layer includes about a 20% to
- 2 30% molar fraction of Al.

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- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the quaternary layer further includes about a
- 2 2% to 5% molar fraction of In.

- 9. A method of producing nitride based heterostructure devices comprising the 1 2 steps of: 3 providing a substrate; applying a first layer including GaN over the substrate; 4 applying a ternary layer over the first layer, wherein the ternary layer 5 includes a compound selected from the group comprising AlGaN and InGaN; and 6 applying a quaternary layer over the ternary layer, wherein the quaternary 7 8 layer includes AlInGaN. 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the substrate includes one of the group 1
- 2 comprising sapphire, SiC, ZnO, a spinel substrate, Si, anodized alumina, and AlN.
- 1 11. The method of claim 9, wherein the quaternary layer includes about a 20% to
- 2 about 30% molar fraction of Al.
- 1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the quaternary layer further includes about a
- 2 2% to about 5% molar fraction of In.

- 1 13. A nitride based heterostructure device comprising:
- 2 a substrate;
- a first layer applied over the substrate; and
- a quaternary layer applied over the first layer wherein the quaternary layer
- 5 includes In.
- 1 14. The device of claim 13, wherein the substrate includes one of the group
- 2 comprising sapphire, SiC, ZnO, a spinel substrate, Si, anodized alumina, and AlN.
- 1 15. The device of claim 13, wherein the first layer includes GaN.
- 1 16. The device of claim 13, wherein the quaternary layer includes AlInGaN.
- 1 17. The device of claim 13, wherein the device is used as one of the group
- 2 comprising of a field effect transistor, an ultraviolet light emitting diode, a visible
- 3 light emitting diode, an ultraviolet light photodetector, a visible light
- 4 photodetector, a dual infrared light emitter and detector, a dual ultraviolet light
- 5 emitter and detector, a pyroelectric device, a piezoelectric device, a strain sensor,
- 6 a stress sensor, and a plasma wave electronics device.

- 1 18. The device of claim 13 further comprising a ternary layer applied between the
- 2 first layer and the quaternary layer.
- 1 19. The device of claim 18, wherein the ternary layer includes a compound
- 2 selected from the group comprising AlGaN and InGaN.